VOLUME 52, ISSUE 11

Serving the Smoke Rise Community since 1968

February, 2020

www.smokesignalnews.com

Happy Valentine's Day from the Staff of the Smoke Signal!
from the Staff of the Smoke Signal!
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### Reflections on Valentine's Day

Joel Gilbert, P.E.

To most, February 14 is as an opportunity to send loved ones flowers, chocolates, and take them to fine restaurants to celebrate! Being a cynic, I thought the holiday was invented by Hallmark for obvious self-serving reasons. It originated as a Western Christian feast-day honoring Saint Valentinus and became associated with romantic love, largely as a result of Chaucer's work in the 14th century ...which I wrote about in last year's paper.

As I researched in preparation for this article, I was struck by some new work defining love called "The Color Wheel Theory." We don't have space here to consider this in detail, but I will tell you that the Wikipedia explanation is interesting and instructive. Suffice it to say that this diversity of uses and meanings, combined with the complexity of the feelings involved, makes love unusually difficult to consistently define, certainly in comparison to other emotional states.

Anyone attending a wedding has heard the 13th chapter of Corinthians in the New Testament describing what love is and isn't. This chapter is always a good reminder for each of us at any time and especially this time of the year. But, let's keep it simple and relevant. Perhaps this new year we should focus on brotherly love.

Brotherly love seems to be in short supply and dwindling as we face a grim year of political ads, speeches, and nastiness with the upcoming presidential election. Maybe then, it is a good time to dust off an old story about the answer Jesus gave to that lawyer who asked, "What are the greatest commandments under Jewish Law?" Jesus replied, "Love your Lord your God with all

...continued on page 9

### **Smoke Rise Community Association News**

By Michael J. Huerkamp, SRCA President

You can't buy much for \$40.00 - unless you are talking about the Smoke Rise Community Association (SRCA). Every year, SRCA reaches out to Smoke Rise residents to become a member or renew membership. Established in 1971, SRCA's mission is dedicated to promoting the Smoke Rise Community and protecting the way of life we all enjoy.

Every dollar received by the SRCA is invested back into our community by our all-volunteer board and is thus returned to you. Send check to: SRCA, P.O. Box 870793, Stone Mountain, GA 30087 or go to the SRCA website at: http://www.smokerise.org.

The association helps our community in many ways. When needed, SRCA funds have even secured legal expertise to address issues like potential adult entertainment establishments, cell towers within our neighborhoods and more.

That same membership fee also funds projects such as:

- Common grounds maintenance and mowing at the Smoke Rise chimneys and triangles
- Movies on the green
- Shredding Days
- Electronics recycling
- Clean-up days
- Sponsoring local events
- Community garden http://www.smokerisecommunitygarden.com/
- Sign toppers
- Smoke Rise markers at border points
- Rebuilding chimneys as needed
- Planting triangle at the school

All activities and projects are through volunteer efforts, with hired professionals as needed, and are funded through the membership fees that have been collected. Volunteers are not only board members but also neighbors who will take on a project lead or lend a hand to the four garden clubs who help with the plantings at the chimneys.

You can pay your dues online at http://www.smokerise.org/. If you enjoy the Smoke Rise way of life, consider joining, contributing and volunteering. Your neighbors will appreciate it.

### Look inside for...

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Exceptional Women Honoredpg 5
Tucker Property Crime Plummetspg 7
Health Notes: Probioticspg 10

### What's Going on in Tucker?

By Frank Luton

Lots of activity in downtown Tucker... you may have noticed lot of orange barrels like below... new curbs, sidewalks, sitting and walking areas will soon appear...



And, the Tucker-Northlake CID is working with Lord Aeck Sargent and Alta Planning on a plan for reconnecting the historic alley and street grid in Downtown Tucker to create a more walkable, accessible and pedestrian-friendly city center. As the alleyways are reopened for use, they will create new opportunities that go beyond simply providing transportation alternatives. Alleys will help to address the lack of public spaces in Downtown Tucker. Over the next five months, the team will develop a new alley activation plan for Downtown Tucker. The goal of the project is to make recommendations on how best to utilize the alley as public spaces, including public art, events programming, design guidelines and place making efforts.



### **APRIL 22, 2020** You are invited!

Join us at Smoke Rise Country Club to celebrate the Smoke Signal's 50th year of continuous monthly distribution.

6:00 p.m. Meet the staff, view our archive, and hear our history

6:45 p.m. Optional Buffet Dinner

Space is limited. RSVP required: Layna Denault, mdenault@smokerisecc.com,

or (770) 258-2582 ext. 7



### **Smoke Signal**

P.O. Box 763, Tucker, GA 30085

A non-profit service organization devoted to furthering neighborhood cooperation with the aid of good neighborhood communication.

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### **February Calendar of Events**

- 2 Groundhog Day
- 3 Smoke Rise Garden Club meeting, 7:00 p.m.



- 8 Georgia Iris Society meeting, 2:00 p.m. St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church 1790 LaVista Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30329
- Mountain Shadow Garden Club (MSGC)Eastminster Presbyterian Church5801 Hugh Howell Road, 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Happy Valentine's Day!
- 17 Presidents Day

Looking for a way to give back to your community?

THE SMOKE SIGNAL

is looking for a few more writers or people with a passion for storytelling. Contact: staff@smokesignalnews.com

### Smoke Signal Deadlines

### **FEBRUARY 13**

Please e-mail articles to:

### staff@smokesignalnews.com

(Word documents or text file attachments preferred)
PLEASE DO NOT SEND CLASSIFIED ADS
TO THIS E-MAIL ADDRESS

Extra copies may be picked up at The Smoke Rise Community Garden on Hugh Howell Rd.

### Deadline for classified ads is FEBRUARY 10

### SMOKE SIGNAL FLYER INSERT POLICY

Cost: \$150 by check to *Smoke Signal*Deadline to Receive: 6:00 p.m. on 19th of month
Flyer inserts should be 8 1/2" x 11" (flat, not folded)
Please provide 2,300 copies
Reservation Required:

Contact Barbara Luton, (770) 491-6711 by 15th of month.

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or visit our website at **www.smokesignalnews.com**Link to the digital version of the *Smoke Signal*at **http://eepurl.com/pjn4v** 

or scan this QR Code with your smart phone!



### Donate, Don't Discard

If you are cleaning out your home for a fresh start to this new year, Friends of Disabled Adults & Children (FODAC) asks that you consider donating your home medical equipment. FODAC collects used equipment — that would otherwise wind up in a landfill — to refurbish, recycle and provide medical devices to those in need.

FODAC's thrift store also accepts clothing and other household items that may be taking up space in your home. All donations are 100% tax-deductible.

FODAC Community Thrift Store is located at 4900 Lewis Rd., Stone Mountain, GA 30083. You can contact FODAC by phone at (770) 491-9014.

### BRING A BOOK

#### **TAKE A BOOK**

Don't forget to check out the Little

Libraries

that

have

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**Submissions** 

When sending articles and photos to the *Smoke Signal*, articles should be sent in .doc or .docx format. Articles sent in .pdf format cannot be edited or changed in any way. Ideally, photos and graphics should be submitted in .jpg or .pdf format. Thanks for helping us make your neighborhood paper the best it can be!



### DID YOUR PAPER GET WET?

EXTRA COPIES OF THE SMOKE SIGNAL ARE NOW AVAILBLE AT THE COMMUNITY GARDEN Look for the wooden box

Look for the wooden box labeled *Smoke Signal*.

(They are no longer available on Smoke Rise Drive.)

### **Smoke Rise Baptist Church**

Dr. Chris George: Senior Pastor Bart McNiel: Associate Pastor Becky Caswell-Speight:

Minister of Families, Faith Formation and Connection Jeremy Colliver: Minister of Youth, Mission and Communication Danny Vancil: Minister of Music and Worship Amanda Coe Burton: Ministry Director for Children and Families Harrison Litzell: Co-Director of the Weekday School

Stacey McNiel: Co-Director of the Weekday School Telephone: (770) 469-5856 SmokeRiseBaptist.org

Sundays:
9:00 a.m. Worship in the Chapel
9:45 a.m. Sunday school
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Communion: Second Sunday of each month

Wednesdays:

5:00-5:45 Fellowship Dinner

6:00-7:00 Programs for children, youth and adults

7:00-8:30 Sanctuary choir Nursery provided

### **Eastminster Presbyterian Church**

Pastor ~ Rev. J. Caleb Clarke III

Pastor of Senior Adult Ministries ~ Rev. Jeanne Simpson
Director of Mission & Youth ~ Mark Sauls
Office Coordinator ~ Christina Wetzel-Sizemore
Director of Weekday Ministries ~ Celeste Sears
Director of Respite Care Center ~ Helen Wilborn
Financial Coordinator ~ Jan Zabarac
Organist ~ Carole Mitchell
Director of Music ~ Anthony Rimore
Ministerial Intern ~ Anne Galliher

5801 Hugh Howell Road ~ Stone Mountain, GA 30087 (770) 469-4881 ~ www.eastminster.us

Respite Care Center Hours: Loving care for your Senior Adult. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Wednesday

Sundays:

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary – nursery is provided

Communion: First Sunday of the month

Join us for dinner and fellowship

Wednesdays:

5:45 p.m.

\$8 per adult & reservations are required by Monday of each week

6:30 p.m. Program 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Special Worship Services:

Service of Healing and Wholeness: 10:30 a.m. February 2

Ash Wednesday Service: 6:30 p.m. February 26

### **MC3 Church**

Senior Minister: Art Stansberry Worship Minister: Leslie Riley Student Minister: Will Tyler Children's Minister: Rae Tyler Caggiula Telephone (770) 783-1035

Sunday Worship at Parkview High School Auditorium

9:30 a.m. Coffee and donuts; adult and student c-groups;

nursery and Sunday school for infants to 5th graders.

10:30 am. Worship service

C-groups throughout the week at various homes --check out our website for more times and addresses

Business Address and Hours:

1316 Rockbridge Rd, Suite M Stone Mountain, GA 30087 Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Mailing Address: 1227 Rockbridge Rd., SW, STE 208-251
Stone Mountain, GA 30087

Stone Mountain, GA 30087

### First Moravian Church

Pastor: Rev. Elroy Christopher Congregational Acolyte: Bill Hitz Telephone (770) 491-7250, (770) 755-8289 www.gamoravian.org

Sundays: 10:00 a.m. Sunday School–Adults & Children

11:00 a.m. Worship 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Time

### **Incarnate Word Lutheran Church**

Please join us for worship on Sundays at 8:45 a.m. at the First Moravian Church sanctuary 4950 Hugh Howell Rd., Stone Mountain, GA 30087

### **Mountain West Church**

Pastor: Michael Shreve Worship Arts Pastor: Gary Robinson Telephone (770) 491-0228 www.mwchurch.com 4818 Hugh Howell Rd., Stone Mountain

Service Times: Sundays: 9:00am / 11:00am / 1:00pm

February, 2020 Schools



### **SRP: Where Everyone is Welcome!**

By Grier Kellett

Smoke Rise Prep, Stone Mountain's best kept secret, focuses on the core values of character, culture, and curriculum. In order to shape well-rounded students, our teachers and parents create an atmosphere that aligns with those core values. One way that we accomplish this is to create a healthy balance between academic rigor and enriching activities.

Come join Smoke Rise Prep Saturday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m. as we host the 8th annual Casino Night at the Smoke Rise Country Club. Be sure to bring Lady Luck with you, as all proceeds will benefit the Smoke Rise Prep community. There will be Blackjack, Texas Hold'em, Roulette, Craps, and SO much more. Get your tickets early at www.smoker-iseprep.org/casino, because they sell out fast! We are looking forward to seeing you there.

If you'd like to see for yourself the amazing learning going on at SRP, please come to one of our Open Houses or Info Sessions. You will hear from the administration about our core values and program offerings, meet the teachers, tour our facility, and ask questions. Please email Principal Sherrie Waddell at sherrie@smokeriseprep.org to RSVP.

Open House Tours:

Friday, February 21 at 9:15 a.m. Friday, March 13 at 9:15 a.m.

Friday, April 24 at 9:15 a.m.

Info. Sessions:

Sunday, February 9 at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, March 22 at 3:00 p.m.

### **Happenings from Tucker High School**

The Tucker High School Girls Basketball Program is in the stages of rebuilding the program under Head Coach, Nicholas DeLoach, and Assistant Coaches, Jessica Jenkins and Joel White. Student athletes in the program are thriving inside the classroom and on

the basketball floor. Ninety-five percent of the student athletes in the program currently have a 3.0 GPA or higher. Academics are the program's number one priority. The girls are learning and growing as basketball players each and every day. As the season continues to progress, the team will continue to strive to be the best student athletes they can possibly be. With great leadership from a few juniors and seniors, the future of this program looks great and is on the right path towards success



this season and beyond. There is much excitement about the younger crop of players down at Tucker Middle School, as well, as they continue to work hard, too. All in all, the Tucker Girls Basketball Program is rebuilding and reloading to become one of the best teams in the state.

### From the National Honor Society newsletter - The Month of Giving by Aminata Wai

During the month of November, the National Honor Society had the chance to provide numerous amounts of love throughout the Tucker community. One opportunity was volunteering at the Phoenix Center, a senior living community. Many of the NHS members loved spending time with the individuals in this community. There were many games, stories, and fun shared all throughout the day.



### Smoke Rise Elementary School Goes Green

By Bernardette Cummings

Smoke Rise Elementary School is excited about its new "Green School" initiatives.

As of December 16, 2019, Smoke Rise Elementary School families were able to send their plastic bags to the school for recycling,

and our Environmental Club has partnered with the Trex Recycling Program. Trex is a company that challenges schools to collect as much plastic as possible. Trex in turn uses the plastic to create composite decking and other outdoor furniture.

Then, in January of 2020, Smoke Rise's STEM team started promoting using compostable lunch trays in the cafeteria. Biodegradable trays do not pollute the environment, because they eventually decompose.

In addition, the school would also love to have our cafeteria's food waste collected by a company named "CompostNow.org." This company would collect left-overs from the cafeteria, as well as the biodegradable trays, and take them to their compost facility. After everything has been broken down into compost, the company would deliver it to the school. The compost would then be used in Smoke Rise Elementary School's garden as organic fertilizer. Currently, Smoke Rise Elementary School is seeking funding to have this service.

A great part of the STEM curriculum is based on environmentalism. This gives our students an opportunity to participate in beneficial "green" practices on a daily basis. Smoke Rise Elementary School is excited about making an impact on the environment.





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### **Renowned Actor Returns to ART Station**



Bill Oberst, Jr. returns from Los Angeles to the ART Station stage for the 16th year to perform the tour-de-force production of "Lewis Grizzard: In His Own Words."

Performances of "Lewis Grizzard" will be Friday, February 21 at 8:00 p.m., Saturday, February 22 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 23 matinee at 3:00 p.m. All performances will be in the ART Station Theatre located at 5384 Manor Drive in Stone Mountain Village.

Back by popular demand, after playing to sold-out crowds for 15 years, ART Station is pleased to present a loving tribute to Lewis Grizzard. Bill Oberst, Jr., pays respect to "one of the foremost humorists in the country," and honors Lewis with the



best of his stand-up comedy and selections from his books and columns, spreading Lewis' unique writings and love of the South. More information at: www.artstation.org.

### ART Station Theatre presents "Ray Bradbury Live (forever)"

ART Station presents a new play written and performed by Emmy-winner, Bill Oberst, Jr. Ray Bradbury turned generations of readers onto fantasy, sci-fi and dreams of the future. Oberst is Ray in *Ray Bradbury Live (forever)*, a brand new multimedia stage tribute. With large-screen visuals, an original score and selections from classics like *Something Wicked This Way Comes* and *The Martian Chronicles*, it is 90 minutes of eloquence, exuberance and hope – all in Ray's own words.

Performances will be in the ART Station Theatre February 27, 28 and 29 at 8:00 p.m. with a Sunday afternoon performance at 3:00 p.m.

Get ticket prices and make reservations by calling the ART Station Box Office at (770) 469-1105 or visit the online Box Office at www.artstation.org

#### **Tucker Parks and Recreation News**

By Rip Robertson, Director, Parks and Recreation, The City of Tucker

As we begin a new year, it's an exciting time at the Tucker Recreation Center. Here are some things happening with our department and ways to get involved and stay active.

#### Completion of the New Gym

- We host the fastest growing sport: pickle ball on Tuesday's 9:00 a.m.- 12:00p.m.; Thursday's 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.; Friday's 3:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.
- We will host a "Sensory Saturdays" (8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.); call for more information.
- Youth basketball registration will continue throughout the season; come be part of the first-ever basketball program and help us grow.

### Senior Valentine's Day

- Our Second Annual luncheon will be held on Friday, February 14
- Music and Dancing from 11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. and a romantic movie at 1:00 p.m.
- \$15.00/ticket. Come enjoy a fantastic afternoon and bring your "honey."

### **NEW CLASS OFFERINGS**

### Camp Gladiator Fitness Classes

- Kelly Cofer Parking Lot Monday and Wednesday 6:30 p.m. and 7:45 p.m. (both days, both times)
- TRC Parking Lot Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 5:30 a.m.
- Special Offer for first 500 participants pricing details at www.campgladiator.com

### Zumba

• We have added a weekday class for those that want more or can't make our Saturday morning class - Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

### Musical Journeys (Adult Beginner Piano Classes)

• Registration open for the next group of sessions; Contact Bonnie Tolbert at bonnie@bonnietolbertpiano.com



### **Auction for the Bees**

The Garden Enthusiast – Backyard Nature Station on Main Street in Tucker will hold its annual silent auction February 10–22. Proceeds will benefit the new "Bee Educated" Project at the Tucker Nature Preserve on Lawrenceville Highway.

This auction is a collaboration between the Friends of Tucker Parks, the City of Tucker and The Garden Enthusiast. The design is the beginning of the Environmental Education Project effort by the Friends group to fill in the gaps not addressed by the City's Master Plan. The goal is \$5,000.00 which will pay for supplies needed such as the hives, safety fencing, signage, and shrubbery. It is also perhaps the first step in identifying Tucker as a certified Bee City. As you may have heard before, "90% of the world's flowering plants depend on pollinators to reproduce" and "one in three bites of food we eat is courtesy of insect pollination." We need pollinators to sustain our world. Currently, there are only seven cities/campuses in Georgia that are Bee City certified with Decatur being the first.

If you would like to donate something for the auction, please drop it off at the store by February 3. Come by on February 15 or 22 to learn more about the project and enjoy refreshments provided by supporters of the Friends of Tucker Parks.

Stop by The Garden Enthusiast at 2343B Main Street Tucker for the auction, place a bid or two, and support another great local community resource.



### Black History Month Celebration at the DeKalb History Center

It was the 1920s, the Jazz Age. There were wild parties! And while Al Capone was busy unleashing violence upon Chicago, African Americans in Bible Belt Georgia were fighting racial, social, and political battles, thus transforming America in unexpected ways.

Join the DeKalb History Center and learn about the Jazz Age in the South from an African American perspective. This informative and entertaining program will include dynamic presentations, the awardwinning Georgia State University Jazz Band, and an original documentary detailing this fascinating decade. The Historic DeKalb Courthouse will be transformed musically and visually into a speakeasy, so feel free to wear something that embodies the Roaring Twenties!

Contact Melissa Forgey at (404) 373-1088, ext. 22, for more information.

Thursday, February 13 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Tickets are required.

Registration includes a catered buffet lunch.

Historic DeKalb Courthouse, Second Floor 101 E Court Square Decatur, GA 30030



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February, 2020

### community

### Club Woman of the Year 2019 GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club

Joanne Cannarella has been chosen as "Club Woman of the Year" for 2019 for the GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club. The recipient receives votes from the membership for this honor.

Joanne has served as the Public Issues Chairman for many years working with the VA hospital and with the USO. She has organized the "Take a Veteran to School" Day at Smoke Rise Elementary School and has held mock elections at the local elementary schools. She has delivered desserts from members to the annual DeKalb Police Appreciation Lunch. Her support has helped girl scout troops and Wellspring Living, a group that helps girls leaving human trafficking situations.



Joanne Cannarella

She and her family are charter members of Corpus Christi Catholic Church. She is active in her church prayer shawl ministry, volunteers at St. Vincent de Paul thrift store, and campaigns for food for the needy in the Stone Mountain area. Many Smoke Rise residents have been led in aerobic exercise at Smoke Rise Baptist Church by Joanne.

Joanne's dedication and enthusiasm for volunteering made her the perfect choice for "Club Woman of the Year."

Doris Hoenig, Peggy Burdette, Maria Flores-Valladares, Robbie Cole

### Women of Empowerment Scholarship GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club

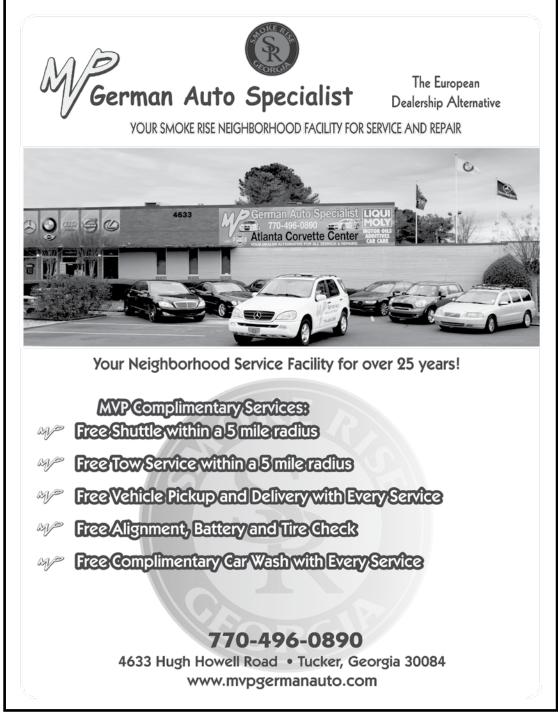
The GFWC Stone Mountain Woman's Club recipient of the "Women of Empowerment" Scholarship is Maria Flores-Valladares. Maria is a sophomore at Georgia Gwinnett College. She is studying accounting pursuant to a career as a CPA.

Maria is a current member of the National Society of Leadership and Success at Georgia Gwinnett. She has been on the Deans List since 2017 and is a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society. She is a team leader volunteer at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Stone Mountain village.

Maria has been working extra jobs to finance

her education and appreciates being chosen as the recipient of the \$1,000.00 scholarship. She received her award at the Woman's Club Christmas luncheon.

The scholarship is presented annually to a lady pursuing a higher education. The winner is chosen from applications made to the Woman's Club.



### DeKalb History Center Surpasses Fundraising Goal

By the first week in January, the DeKalb History Center raised \$10,032.00 for its annual, "Give 5 for the

GIVE 5 FOR THE ARCHIVES

Archives" fundraiser... officially surpassing its goal of \$10,000.00!

"Give Five for the Archives" is the DeKalb History Center's annual, End-of-Year Campaign

which is brought about for the purpose of raising money for a specific area of the history center. This year, the money raised will go to purchasing needed supplies for the

archives. The DeKalb History Center houses thousands of records on a diverse set of topics, and it is quite an expensive process to store these materials in proper archival-quality supplies. The records in its collection are not made to last forever, but staff are able to considerably slow down the aging process by properly storing items in safe, archival materials.



(Fun fact: Many past issues of *The Smoke Signal* are housed at the DeKalb History Center!)

Through the generosity of the public, the history center can continue its work to collect, preserve, and share the history of DeKalb County.

With \$10,000, the history center is able to buy:

- A new map storage unit
- More than 200 new special collections boxes
- More than 2,000 photograph sleeves
- More than 1,000 acid-free file folders

You can continue to support the DeKalb History Center throughout the year by becoming a member. For more information, go online: https://dekalbhistory.org/





### community

# Celebration of the *Smoke Signal*Commemorating 50 YEARS of Community Service, and You're Invited!

It's hard to believe any not-for-profit, all-volunteer group of neighbors could establish a newspaper that could deliver uninterrupted delivery to thousands of homes for more than 50 years. Well, it happened, and it continues to happen right here in Smoke Rise.

Our founders were mostly wives whose young families had moved to a new development called Smoke Rise. They saw a need for staying connected by sharing community happenings and news. Early papers featured society news, fundraising galas, graduations, political and school news, and updates on the local Woman's and Garden Clubs. Of course, recipes and engagement announcements were prominent features.

Remarkedly, many of our earliest papers are preserved at the DeKalb County Courthouse archives. Those papers contain fascinating details and pictures of our founding, including the development of each Smoke Rise neighborhood, the designation of land for our local churches, and even planning details for the ambitious founding of an 18-hole golf course on 175-acres of land in the heart of our community that thrives today as Smoke Rise Country Club, lifting our Smoke Rise home values.

Honoring the *Smoke Signal* editors, staff, writers, and advertisers, the Smoke Rise Country Club is hosting a dinner event April 22, featuring members of the current and early staff for a time of reflection and appreciation for the history documented and vision cast by this remarkable community paper.

Mark your calendar:
50 Years Celebration of the Smoke Signal
Wednesday, April 22, 2020

6:00 p.m.

Meet the staff, view our archive, and hear our history

6:45 p.m. Optional Buffet Dinner Space is limited; RSVP required: Layna Denault, mdenault@smokerisecc.com or (770) 258-2582 ext. 7

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### The 2019 Christmas Season Was Merry!

The 2019 Christmas season was our merriest yet! We continued the tradition of decorating our home with thousands of lights and rearranged our display to better showcase some of our more recent additions.

Despite all the rain, Santa Claus was able to stop by again this year and pose for

pictures in his sleigh. We are happy he made time in his busy schedule to do this and are hoping to have him return next year!

With the help of neighbors and Make-A-Wish volunteers, we collected a record \$7,043.30 for the Make-A-Wish foundation. All of which was presented to organization representative, Jaylie Welch, on Wednesday, January 8 by my wife, Theo, and me. This amount exceeds last year's total and brings the grand



total to \$36,700.13 for the past eight years (100% of collected donations go directly to the charity). We are so grateful to everyone for the donations and generosity they have shown to this wonderful organization.

We also want to thank all our wonderful Summit neighbors who tolerate the constant traffic on our street. We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, and we are already working on our new addition for this Christmas!



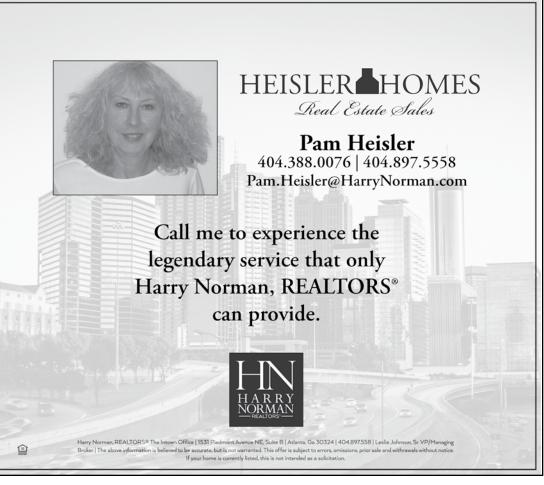
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February, 2020 Community



### **Tucker Property Crime Plummets in 2019**

By Matt Holmes, Director of Communications and Administrative Services

The City of Tucker, through a partnership with the DeKalb County Police Department, experienced a sharp 25 percent drop in the number of property crimes reported in 2019. Among the biggest improvements, the number of residential burglaries was cut almost in half.

"Last year the hard work of our officers and detectives produced very positive results in the area of property crime," said Tucker's Police Liaison, Lt. D.G. Schoeppner. "We hope to use that as a platform to reduce crime in all categories in this new year."

Aside from residential burglaries (43 percent), the biggest decreases came in reported business burglaries (23 percent), auto thefts (22 percent) and entering autos (14 percent).

"Tucker's partnership with the DeKalb County Police Department is strong and our citizens recognize that," said City Manager Tami Hanlin. "Our officers are out in the community on a daily basis, forging relationships with residents and business owners. They are working diligently on new strategies in areas of high crime. Moreover, they have been great partners with our city staff and elected officials to help address the priorities of the city."

One area of crime that did increase in 2019 was homicide. Tucker went from five homicides in 2018 to seven homicides in 2019. According to police, the victims in each case were targeted, rather than these being random crimes. Thanks to great work by DeKalb Police detectives, most of those cases were closed quickly.

Tucker has an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the DeKalb County Police Department for law enforcement within the city boundaries. The entirety of the city is serviced by the Tucker Precinct. Under the agreement, the city also has a dedicated liaison to the Police Department who is available as a resource to the public, as well as hosts routine crime briefings for the Mayor, City Council and senior leadership.

### Smoke Rise Preferred Contractor's List is Now ONLINE Only!

If you are looking for reliable people to build decks, paint, do electrical, plumbing, interior design and many other services, then request a copy of this list. We maintain a free listing of contractors and other service providers that your neighbors have used successfully. For a copy of this list, go to: http://www.smokesignalnews.com/vendor-list.html

You may also submit a new recommendation, comment on a service you used or brag on a contractor.



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### WEDDING

#### Buckmon-Dunham

Kanawha residents, Vernon and Olivia Buckmon announce the marriage of their daughter, Whitney Buckmon to Matthew Dunham on December 7, 2019. Whitney graduated from Chamblee High School. She attended and graduated from Florida State University on a full Athletic Scholarship for softball. She was awarded an internship with the



Orange Bowl for her athletic and academic excellence. Whitney also earned her MBA from the University of Georgia Terry School of Business. Whitney is a Marketing Manager with Intercontinental Hotels. Matthew attended Florida State University and earned a full football scholarship. He is currently an Atlanta Firefighter and EMT. The couple lives in the Riverside Community in Atlanta.

### **Tucker Library News**

- Building Blocks (story times for ages 0-24 months) every Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Tales for 2s (story times for two-year-olds) every Wednesday 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- LEGO Club (ages 5 to 12) come build creations based a monthly theme. LEGOS and resources for ideas are provided. 2/20 at 3:00 p.m.
- Read to a Pet Partner
   2/13 or 2/27 at 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
   Readers can read to an excellent canine listener for a 20-minute individual session.
- Book Buddies Book Club (for beginning chapter book readers ages 6-9)
   2/10 at 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Book Ends Book Club (for middle grade readers ages 9 to 12) 2/24 at 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Mind Readers (a book club for ages 11-14)
   2/25 at 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- All ages Open Mic! Come sing, dance, rap, play an instrument, slam poetry or just hang out! Sign up begins two weeks prior to date. Advanced sign up is recommended. 2/18 at 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

For most programs, call or visit branch to pre-register.
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### **NEWS YOU CAN USE**

By AvivA Hoffmann

### Too Good to be True

If you have an email account, you have no doubt received forwarded messages promising riches, discounts, improved health/body, free products, or even good luck (just for sending the message along to other poor saps). Some messages even claim to provide safety advice and helpful information. Ignore these messages!



If you forward a "safety" message, you are not likely saving someone's life or preventing a crime. Most of those emails are actually filled with inaccurate safety tips and based on fabricated crimes. As for the free stuff; if you forward the message, you will not get cash from Microsoft, you will not get free merchandise from Nike, or a free trip to Walt Disney World, or free clothing from the GAP, or a free car, or free cell phone, or free computers from IBM, or a gift certificate to any store. All you will get for your trouble is lost time. Or, you may suffer financial harm. Some of these kinds of emails could contain harmful computer viruses or programs that can steal sensitive information. However, most are simply "junk mail" – also known as "Spam" in cyberspace.

There are several internet sites that help debunk deceptive emails. Whenever I get a warning about a new theft ring, or a free offer, I go to the Urban Legends Reference Pages. You can find the website at http://www.snopes.com.

The next time you get an email that's too good to be true, or one that sends you a "warning" you just can't live without, remember, it is (with little to no exception) an urban legend. Some emails are funny or entertaining, but not true. So, do your part to be a responsible "netizen." Please check out the facts before you forward the false information to others.

### **Smoke Signal Political Policy**

It is the policy of the *Smoke Signal* to print one article on political candidates prior to each primary and/or general election. The candidate must submit the article to the paper by deadline, in order for it to appear in the following month's issue. No staff member will be responsible for any political articles on candidates, nor will the *Smoke Signal* solicit articles from candidates. Articles are to be submitted on a voluntary basis.

Political flyers – See page 2 for information. No political ads will be run in the classifieds.



features February, 2020



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### **Out the Window**

By Beth Henson

Passing through my foyer, I glanced out the long, sunny windows into the bright, white-bricked courtyard. The salvia had lost all of its brilliant indigo flower stalks with the winter weather, but the plants were still a vibrant green; one of the many advantages of living in Georgia. I listened for the sputter and tinkle of the small fountain nestled in the garden wall. Today, I noticed that Squeaky (my pet name for all the resident squirrels) was



Squeaky Squirrel by Beth Henson

taking a long swig of the cool trickling water. This was not the first time I had seen him enjoying his libation, ever alert with his sharp brown eyes and twitching bottle brush tail. I've often seen that gray mottled appendage doing its own dance, the sun highlighting the thousands of soft quivering bristles. Squeaky and his friends are very territorial and show their displeasure with the quirky tail movements and lots of high pitch chatter. I also enjoy watching him and his cohorts displaying their acrobatics high in the pine trees (they can leap up to 10 feet), but simply watching him relax in the courtyard has become one of my favorite past times.

Although many people don't appreciate these little guys, squirrels are one of the few wild animals that live in harmony with us in the cities and don't carry disease or make big messes (like rats and pigeons). They are also responsible for the spread of our beautiful oaks, by hiding lots of acorns in the ground... not to mention the hours of playful entertainment they provide. I was happy to celebrate you, Squeaky, on January 21 in Smoke Rise, which just happens to be National Squirrel Appreciation Day!

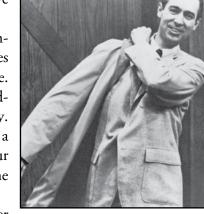
### Valentine's Day...continued from page 1

your heart, mind and soul and to love your neighbor as yourself." You may also remember when Jesus was asked how to pray, he said, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

There seems to be no question that the right thing to do in the eyes of God and man is

to love our neighbor. My question has always been "who is my neighbor?" rather than what to do, especially as we live in such a digitally and interconnected world.

I think we'd all agree that our definition of "neighbor" includes the residents of the roughly 2,300 homes that compose our wonderful community of Smoke Rise. Knit together by our geography, connected through readership of our Smoke Signal, we are a caring community. So, let's covenant to use this Valentine's day to begin a renewed emphasis on brotherly love, getting to know our neighbors, and being thoughtful and considerate to one another. Mister Rogers would approve. In his words:



Fred Rogers, late 1960s

"All of us, at some time or other, need help. Whether we're giving or receiving help, each one of us has some-

thing valuable to bring to this world. That's one of the things that connects us as neighbors--in our own way, each one of us is a giver and a receiver."

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- Debby Logan, family member

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features _____ February, 2020

### **HEALTH NOTES:**

by Cheri Schneider, M.D.

### **Probiotics**

Scientists have been studying the gastrointestinal tract for a long time. What they have found in the last 10-15 years is very interesting, and is changing the way they think about the GI tract's function. The upper intestine and stomach contains very few naturally occurring organisms... possibly because stomach acid and bile secretions keep the organisms from growing. The colon or lower intestine, however, contains close to 500 different organisms... mostly bacteria and some yeast. These naturally occurring "bugs" live on the surface of the intestinal tract and seem to perform important roles in maintaining health and immunity.

Since the introduction of antibiotics into the field of medicine in the 1940s, a renaissance of sorts has taken place in the treatment of infectious disease. Over the decades, this has resulted in the overuse of antibiotics. In patients who have overused antibiotics, disruption of the balance of naturally occurring gut and skin microorganisms has occurred, leading to antibiotic resistance, serious intestinal diarrheal diseases and perhaps even a disruption in the role gut microbes have in disease prevention.

So what are probiotics and where do they come in? The American Family Physician calls probiotics "microorganisms with potential health benefits." Simply stated, probiotics are live microorganisms — chiefly bacteria and healthy yeasts — that when taken, prevent disease or help treat it. Currently, there are only three or four circumstances in which probiotics have been scientifically shown to be of benefit. Many of the health claims about probiotics that are currently advertised are unsubstantiated or even false. There are many ongoing studies.

What are the uses for probiotics? Although there is much enthusiasm for probiotics and there are many claims made, there are really only three well-studied uses for them.

- 1. Probiotics can reduce the incidence of antibiotic related diarrhea by about 50-64%, when given with the antibiotic series. The most commonly used probiotics for this cause are Saccharomyces boulardii and Lactobacillus rhamnosus GG. Dosages of more than five billion CFUs per day were most effective. Yogurt starter cultures with live Lactobacillus bulgaricus and Saccharomyces thermophiles can prevent antibiotic related diarrhea.
- 2. The Cochrane Institute reviewed 23 studies that used various probiotics to treat acute infectious diarrhea. (traveler's diarrhea, viral diarrhea and other acutely infectious stomach bugs). They found that probiotics decreased the number of days sick and the amount of diarrhea, when they were used along with rehydration therapy solutions. Probiotics, especially S. boulardii, may prevent traveler's diarrhea, if begun the week before leaving on a trip.

There are mixed reviews on relief of symptoms of Irritable bowel Syndrome. Abdominal pain and bloating were the symptoms most relieved. One study showed a 20% reduction in symptoms.

Probiotics have been shown in some studies to prevent atopic dermatitis in susceptible children. Other allergic conditions, such as asthma, food allergies or allergic rhinitis were not affected or decreased in these children. Lactobacillus fermentum VRI-033 was shown to decrease already established eczema in children with moderate to severe eczema.

Are they safe? There are no absolute reasons not to take probiotics. Mild flatus or occasional abdominal discomfort and soft stools have been reported. Rarely, in severely immunocompromised or seriously ill patients, life threatening infection can occur. This has never been reported in healthy individuals.

Which ones do I use? Most common commercial brands contain a mixture of strains of probiotic including Lactobacillus acidophilus, L. rhamnosus, L. bulgaricus, Bifidobacterium bifidum, B. longum and Saccharomyces boulardii. Many live culture yogurts and yogurt drinks contain Lactobacillus strains in varying amounts per serving. Common doses are five to 10 billion CFU/day in children and from 10-20 billion CFU/day in adults.

The problem with probiotics: Probiotics are considered a health food or dietary supplement and not a medication, so they are not regulated by the FDA. This means you will see varying amounts of probiotic in different brand products, and even significant variation within the same brand. Because much more research is needed, there is no standardized "recipe" for what works best with each condition.

More information: can be found at these two websites: http://www.usprobiotics.org and http://nccam.nih.gov/health/probiotics/. For professionals, the May 2015 Gastroenterology magazine devoted an entire edition to Food, the Immune System, and the Gastrointestinal Tract.



### What's Up with Wireless Earbuds?

By Susan Gilbert

Wireless earbuds were all the rage last December topping many Christmas wish lists, including my own. Issues with earlier wireless buds limited their popularity: they were huge, had only a few hours of battery life, and just didn't work well. Times have changed and most all the bugs have been resolved, which is why people are clamoring for them now.

For me, tired of coiling, uncoiling, and untangling the cord, wireless earbuds sounded attractive, but at what cost? Many of the most popular ones run more than \$200.00 and some approach \$1,000.00, which to me sounded ridiculous. After all, I am used to paying maybe \$20.00 for



my wired ones that work fine. But I was intrigued by not only the huge price range but also the advantages of ones costing so much over others going for less than \$50.00. So, I went to work researching them.

Knowing they are small, about the size of a kernel of popcorn, I went into this investigation knowing that eventually one or both would be lost. Therefore, spending as little as possible on them was a consideration. I wanted something inexpensive to try out, so I could decide if they were something I would use, enjoy...and keep up with. After reading reviews of the top selling models, I found some for \$50.00 that had all the features I was looking for: Easy to pair with my phone, comfortable to wear, long battery life, and great sound quality. The ones from Tranya that appeared under my tree delivered all of these capabilities and more. In case you are interested, checking

If you didn't get some for Christmas and are interested, here are some features to consider before over-spending for a pair.

back on Amazon, they are now down to \$40.00.

### Features

- Look for earbuds with Bluetooth 5.0.
- More than five-hours of battery life is a worthwhile feature, so you aren't constantly having to recharge. Also, batteries in wire-free headphones degrade over time, so it's worth getting as much life as you can from the start.
- Look for ones that have the flower-petal-like circular surrounds on the part that rests in your ear making them more comfortable than ones that are hard surfaces that over time begin to hurt.
- Sound canceling is an option with the more expensive ones, but I have found no value in that for how I use them listening to music. Maybe on airplanes and in noisy places it would be worth the extra money to add sound-canceling ability.
- A nifty case is a nice feature. And, look for ones that have magnetic seating, so the buds snap into place vs. having to get them aligned to recharge.



February, 2020

### garden clubs

### Mountain Mums Garden Club January Meeting



Co-hostess, Lucy White; speaker, Lisa Troncalli; hostess, Cheri Schneider and co-hostesses Ann Purr and Kelly Samaras

### Smoke Rise Garden Club News

By Denise Finley

The Smoke Rise Garden Club kicked off the new decade with a very well attended meeting at Margarita Fajardo's house. Margarita has a designer's eye, and the house was decorated like a Christmas Showplace. She served a lovely dinner as well. Her co-hostesses were Alice Norton and Pat Mitchell.

Our speaker was Beth Gabbett, a wise young lady who has been following her love of flowers since an early age. Beth started following the "Slow Flowers" movement 10 years ago, starting in New York City. Slow Flowers is a movement promoting the support and purchase of American-grown flowers in the United States. Similar to the Slow Food Movement -- aimed at preserving local, sustainable food and traditional cooking -- the Slow Flower movement encourages consumers to support their local economy and consciously purchase cut flowers grown locally, seasonally and ethically in the United States, instead of purchasing flowers imported from other countries or flowers grown using chemicals and pesticides. She brought her love of Slow Flowers to her own front yard in Dunwoody and is getting amazing results. Beth grows spectacular flowers from seed in a high-density program using "double digging," netting, seed blocks, a heat mat, a homemade irrigation system and various other techniques promoted by "Mother Earth News" and other pioneers of the slow flower movement (Debra Prinzing). She plants three times a year and cuts her flowers twice a week in high season. She grows poppies, dahlias, zinnias, marigolds to name only a few. She provides flowers to a local nursing home, her neighborhood, friends and family. Her new project is six new shade garden beds in the back yard where she plans to grow hosta, coral bells and shade perennials. She has also started a small business called "Bouquet Y'all." Her love of flowers continues to take her into new directions.

We are looking forward to seeing the results of our fall planting at four of the Tucker City Parks. Daffodils should be peeking out soon. The club plans to continue to expand this beautification project in 2020.

If you would like to attend a meeting and learn more about the club, please call or email Jane Culbertson at (770) 938-3060 or destovan@aol.com. The February meeting is planned for February 3. A representative of Wildtree Farm to Table Meal Solutions will be demonstrating their products.

Smoke Rise Garden Club is a member of the DeKalb Federation of Garden Clubs and the Redbud District of the Garden Club of Georgia.



### Morning Glories: Growing Old in the Garden?

By Quill Duncan

It is not just gardeners who grow old, gardens do too! January's meeting featured a very informative talk from Landscape Architect Dottie Myers. Dottie's expertise is landscape design and her firm offers design, installation and maintenance of gardens in the Atlanta area. Dottie's talk focused on how gardens can evolve from a high maintenance situation to a more sustainable environment with the selection of slow growing, drought tolerant additions to the landscape. She offered many suggestions and solutions from her client base. One particularly challenging case was a front garden in Avondale Estates with a huge old oak tree with many roots and lots of shade. The solution to a grassy front lawn space was artificial turf, not ASTROTURF, but one of the new engineered varieties that truly resembles real grass. By layering a water permeable base directly on the ground, and then topping it with the new "grass," the client had a perfect solution that could not be solved with



CAP President A.J. Robinson, Tally Sweat and Eddie Meyers, PNC Bank

natural turf. One other tip was to plant perennials close together, to create a strong statement and reduce weeding, as weeds easily find open ground. And if a plant is not in the right place or has overgrown its space, pull it out and pass it on!

In club news, longtime member, Tally Sweat, was honored in January at the Central Atlanta Progress awards luncheon with the Dan Sweat Community Service Award for her many years of dedication to garden clubs, Olmsted Linear Park Association and Conservation in Georgia. Tally is moving to the Callaway Gardens area to be closer to her family, so she will be "aging" near one of the most beautiful gardens in the Southeast. She will be missed by this club and the Druid Hills Garden Club where she is also a member. Tally joined the Morning Glories in 1971! Best Wishes to you, Tally!

Morning Glories will be collecting Valentines for Vets in February and donating bars of soap and other items to the Stone Mountain Cooperative Ecumenical Ministry. The club also donated funds to the Smoke Rise Elementary School for its STEM program. February 27 will be the DeKalb Federation Life Member recognition luncheon at Callanwolde, and we will honor members Jackie Cox and Kim Fair for their dedication to the club's many activities and programs - including garden therapy and school grounds.

Sincere thanks to our gracious hostess, Geri Burns, who organized and hosted a lovely luncheon at Park Springs for our meeting. The raffle of a gift certificate to Pike Nursery was won by Judi Crutchfield, just in time to select some lovely new perennials for her shade garden.

**The Georgia Iris Society** will meet Saturday, February 8 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church, 1790 LaVista Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329. The speaker will be retired attorney, Mr. Bill Waldrop, owner of Kennesaw Mountain Daylily Farm.

You are invited to join for education, beautification and recreation. Meetings are free to the public and all are welcome. Lite snacks and door prizes will be offered. For more information, contact Kathy Blackwell at (678) 471-2604.

## Mountain Shadow Garden Club Program February 10: Garden Photography

By Don Armstrong

The meeting of Mountain Shadow Garden Club (MSGC) on Monday evening, February 10, will feature a program by Lyle Collins on "Garden Photography." From capturing images of beloved plants and flowers to recording seasonal beauty, photography in the garden preserves the memories of the whole, while still presenting the finest details. His presentation will include tips regarding camera equipment, lighting, storing images, and more.



Lyle COllins

Lyle is a founding member and now President of Southern Trillium, an award-winning design/build company committed

to providing clients with the highest quality landscape design, installation, and construction. Founded in 2004, the group is one of the most professionally licensed companies of its kind in metro Atlanta. Lyle is involved in all aspects of the company, as well as participating in the on-site installation of projects.

A graduate of the University of Georgia, Lyle received his landscape design training from the Department of Horticulture. Among other credentials, he is an ISA Certified Arborist and a Georgia Certified Landscape Professional.

Lyle, his wife and two young daughters live on a property of about two acres in the Smoke Rise community. They continue to expand their garden rooms and landscape with spaces serving as a private retreat for the family as well as a place to experiment with new plants and ideas. Photography is one of his major hobbies, and Lyle has presented programs to MSGC and other groups highlighting techniques for best results, especially in outdoor settings.

MSGC is open to men and women of all ages who enjoy learning about a diverse range of topics related to home landscapes, plants, and gardens. The meeting and program begin promptly at 7:30 p.m. in Founders Hall, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 5801 Hugh Howell Road, Stone Mountain. Free. Refreshments and socializing follow. For more information and directions, contact club president Jeff Raines at (404) 641-8633. www.facebook.com/MtShadowGardenClub

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For information on display (box) advertisements or flyer inserts, see contact information on page 2.

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Fun Making Sushi: You Can Do This!

Joel Gilbert

Both sushi and sashimi are Japanese dishes, but they are not the same.

Sushi is a bite-sized piece of seafood, vegetable, or fruit presented over prepared rice. The rice is cooked and seasoned with vinegar and usually with some sugar and salt. Styles of sushi and its presentation vary widely, but the one key ingredient is the "sushi rice," which gives it its name. You will also hear this called Nigiri.

Sushi is traditionally made with medium-grain white rice, though it can be prepared with brown rice or shortgrain rice. It is often served with ginger, wasabi (a mixture of horseradish, mustard and food coloring) and soy sauce. Sashimi is a presentation of raw fish or meat sliced into thin pieces. It differs from Sushi in that it is NOT served over rice. It is sometimes served over a bed of shredded daikon radish.

There are several key "tricks" to making sushi at home. The first is to use Sushi Rice, not regular rice, and prepare it so that it is "sticky." The second is to buy sheets of seaweed wrap (called Nori), if you want to make those "rolls" you always see on the menu. If you want a roll without that seaweed wrap, use a sheet of plastic wrap to make the roll and remove it once the roll is formed.

Sushi Rice is super easy to make at home! With just FOUR simple ingredients, the possibilities with this scrumptious recipe are endless!

Ingredients:

3 cups of sushi rice

3 cups water

1/4 cup Japanese rice vinegar

2 Tablespoons sugar

1 teaspoon salt

Preparation:

Place the sushi rice into a mixing bowl and cover with cool water. Swirl the rice in the water with your hand,



pour off and repeat 2-3 times or until the water is clear. Rinse a few more times to be sure. After the rice is rinsed, let the rice drain in a colander or strainer for 1 hour.

After the rice has drained, put the rice in a rice cooker with the 3 cups of water, cover, and start. If you don't have a rice cooker, put the rice and water in a heavy saucepan over medium-high heat; bring just to a boil, reduce heat to low, and simmer, covered, for 15 minutes. Turn off heat and let rice rest, covered, for 15 more minutes.

While the rice is cooking, prepare the vinegar mixture. In a small saucepan over medium heat, combine rice vinegar, sugar, and salt. Heat mixture just until the sugar dissolves (do not let it boil). Remove from heat and let cool to room temperature.

When the rice is ready, gently spread it out on a cookie sheet. Evenly distribute the cooled vinegar mixture over the rice. Gently turn rice over from time to time with rice paddle or wooden spatula, so that the rice cools evenly.

To speed things up, fan the rice each time you turn it over. When it has cooled to room temperature, it is ready to use for sushi rolls.

If you want to wait a while before making your sushi or while you are making the rolls, you can keep the rice at the right temperature by placing it in a large bowl and covering with a damp kitchen towel.

Then, if you don't have one already, get a bamboo mat. You may have one in your placemat drawer. Place a sheet of Nori or plastic wrap on the mat, and gently mash a thin layer of rice all along the top. Leave some room around the edges.

Arrange your favorite slices of fish, vegetables, cream cheese, celery, imitation crab as a "small cylinder" sideways on the sheet and then roll the rest of the rice around this core. You can, of course, also hand-form a small amount of rice and place the fish on top. If you like wasabi, put a dab on top of the rice before you cover it. Enjoy!!